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Department of Agriculture
Federal Extension Service
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SUMMARY
of
SPECIAL MEETING TO REVIEW MATERIAL FOR LEADER TRAINING PROGRAM -
SEWING MACHINE, March 9, 1955, Room 124E
Department of Agriculture

Kenneth Anderson - presiding at beginning

National Committee	- Kenneth Anderson, Emmie Nelson
FES	- Tena Bishop, Alice Linn, Fern Shipley
Singer Sewing Machine Co.	- McRoberts, Armstrong, M. Ross, E. Spielman
Clothing Specialists	- Mamie Brock, Helen Pearson
4-H Subcommittee	- Ima Crisman, Fae Roark
Special Consultants	- Joan Frye, Evans (Coats and Clark) Caroline Hutchins (Simplicity)

Alice Linn - Review of previous meetings.

Ken Anderson - Appreciation to all who have contributed so far.

Tena Bishop - Summarized suggestions submitted by committee members.
Total of eleven contributed to these suggestions. Seems
to indicate the committee still has about same opinion as
at original meetings.

Helen Pearson - Some question about the volume of material. In Extension
we often give leaders too much.

Marian Ross - Will look much less in final form -
(1) Triple space
(2) Illustrative material now hand stapled

Mamie Brock - Are tucker and zig-zag somewhat obsolete? So far as attach-
ments included with machines, decorative stitching is small
point. Straight stitching machine with automatic zig-zagger
best meets our needs.

Marian Ross - For those people who have automatic zig-zag attachment, they
may like to know how to use it. Many uses for the different
attachments that might not need to be taught. Is this to be
a reference manual or a teaching manual?

Alice Linn - Let's consider in relation to using pattern well; for example,
width of seam.

Tena Bishop - Do we need to consider whether we eliminate or keep in the
practical application, whether four or five?

4-H-37(4-55)

Mr. Evans - Reference material or teaching guide?

Mr. McRoberts - Same question.

Ken Anderson - Related to tractor program where material definitely said it was not intended to replace the manual that came with the tractor.

Alice Linn -- Going back to idea of another lesson as a "treat"--could we tie the buttonholer, etc., in relation to dressmaking?

Helen Pearson - Our bulletins are effective as they are followed up with a demonstration, complicated if we have to demonstrate all those attachments.

Tena Bishop - Relation of Beginner's Manual to Leader's Guide.
2nd lesson - would be well used.
3rd lesson - probably also.

These three seem to be most acceptable.

1 and 2 - will be most used

3 and 4 - less used

Should we spend our effort on first three and emphasize the few simple attachments recommended in the beginning by the committee?

Alice Linn -- Call by names, rather than 1-2-3-4

Caroline Hutchins - Might there be a suggestion of advanced continuation - for some - beyond the manual?

Mr. McRoberts - One reason for volume is that we have to keep in mind so many types of machines.

Discussion of the plan was based on ten hours.

Ima Crisman - Many leaders have girls in all stages.

Discussion (again) of simple material presented under the guise of helping leaders with beginning girls, but actually supplementing leader's basic information.

Mamie Brock - First thing Mississippi is going to do is train the home agents on know your sewing machine.

Fae Roark - Probably same in Louisiana. This material is excellent.

(Several other excellent comments same time)

Tena Bishop - (summarize) Maybe the first year we need to put emphasis on Lesson 1.

Helen Pearson - Are we giving too much, too fast, to untrained leaders?

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Mamie Brock - Would like to include automatic zig-zagger.

Question raised on what other attachments to include.

Mamie Brock - Satisfied with the four included last summer.

Alice Linn - Show on buttonholer how to adjust--most closely related to dressmaking.

Tena Bishop - Let's check through general comments which include questions needing discussion.

What would be expected by the Singer Sewing Machine Company or the National 4-H Club Committee in records, reports and publicity for which extension would be responsible?

- (a) County report form - number of leaders, simple statistical information.
- (b) State summary to National Committee including strong points and weak points of program

(Mr. McRoberts - nothing expected)

Will be included in announcement, also a suggested release for States to use if they choose.

Is there any plan for special prizes to members and leaders not mentioned in the present program that will be brought into the picture later which might complicate the carrying out of the plan?

Ken Anderson - Suggestion of possibility of 8 or 10 adult leaders (rotation basis) to come to Club Congress. Must be part of whole quota system and will be considered by Subcommittee in June. A few States have State prizes with Singer local proposition between local singer man and State staff.

Fae Roark - Is this for junior leader? Answer: Yes.

Mr. McRoberts - Asked if Miss Brock would comment on her recent experience in Mississippi.

Mamie Brock - On basis of recent experience:

Would take out: binder, shirring foot
 leave in : cording foot, buttonholer, automatic
 zig-zagger, zipper, edge stitcher
 Shirring foot)
 Gatherer) More important for home furnishings
 Binder) than dress making.

In response to Marian Ross' question: narrow hemmer out.

Helen Pearson - There will be a carry-over to adult as well as L-H programs.

Ken Anderson - Can we go back to a basic 4 or 5 attachments and Singer have available material for States which want to make substitutions? Which is their province?

Marian Ross - The problem of having packaged material ready to teach the particular thing.

Alice Linn - Should the games, as tentatively worked out by subcommittee last summer, be included?

Helen Pearson - There will be some other things included in club meetings (records, etc.). Members are going to be thrilled with the manual. They don't need devices.

Discussion regarding games. Don't need to include devices in leader's guide. States have their own plan for conducting meetings. Can be available for State if they want to incorporate in their own material. The suggestions submitted need revision to fit the States.

Reconsideration regarding games - vote taken.

	Vote
1. Omit	(3)
2. Incorporate, but not meeting by meeting	(3)
3. Sent out to States only	(3)

The recognition luncheon was questioned if it would call leaders in to a third meeting. Some help for meals in connection with the training was suggested as an alternate plan.

The question is evidently misinterpreted. The idea was to provide a luncheon when the leaders come for final session.

What will be the attitude of the Singer Sewing Machine Company if other Sewing Machine Companies come up with plans in the future which the L-H staff approves and with which it would need to cooperate?

No objection to plans that help home sewing.

In accepting a worthy project of this type it would be the desire of the specialists working in cooperation with the State Club Staff to develop and administer it in the most effective manner. Experience in other projects, such as the tractor maintenance, dairy foods demonstrations, handicraft, etc., indicates that funds provided to the State for leader training expenses and recognition help greatly in implementing the program.

Perhaps later if needs arise consideration might be given. Not at this point.

It is our recommendation that the Singer Sewing Machine Company give serious consideration in allotting some funds to each State for further implementing the leader training program. Such funds could advantageously be used for expenses of leaders attending training meetings, for additional materials and equipment required by the specialists and for appropriate recognition of leaders and members.

Discussion on this item held until later.

After lunch the Extension personnel present met and chose the following attachments to be included.

1. Zipper foot
2. Cording foot
3. Buttonholer (no embroidery)
4. Automatic zig-zagger
5. Cloth guide
6. Edge stitcher (for practical applications in 4-H clothing)

The making of a blouse was discussed for the fourth meeting. The idea of making a blouse was suggested previously as a way in which the leader could apply some of the previous knowledge gained in the first three meetings. This did not meet with approval by those present. It was finally agreed that for Meeting IV each leader could bring an article such as a blouse, child's dress, dress top to which she could apply the adjustment of the machine to the fabric and to include in the construction of the garment three or more of the following attachments:

1. Zipper foot
2. Cording foot
3. Cloth guide
4. Automatic zig-zagger
5. Edge stitcher
6. Buttonholer

Garment to be cut out at house and as much construction as possible done before coming to the meeting. Local adaptation would be necessary.

Lesson IV to be called: Getting the Most Out of Your Sewing Machine--
Applied

Suggested that the materials be assembled as follows:

- I. Know Your Sewing Machine
 - Leader's Guide
 - Club Member's Handbook
 - Leader Trainer's Guide
- II. Care and Adjustment of the Sewing Machine
- III. Adjustment of Machine for Various Weights and Thicknesses of Fabrics
- IV. Getting the Most Out of Your Sewing Machine--Applied

Timing of Materials

May be ready for Fall training programs. Singer will work towards late August or early September.

Committee members need another look before printing.

Washington office will send information concerning program to States immediately.

National Committee will prepare announcement. It will be up to each State to accept or reject all or part of the material offered.

